

Map 29: Apperley Bridge - Harrogate Road Area



Oaklea Mills (key unlisted building).



New housing on the site of Valley Mills.



Apperdale Mill with Oaklea Mills in the background (key unlisted buildings).



Stylo Works, Harrogate Road (key unlisted building).



No's 30-35 Meadow Road (key unlisted building).



997-1001, Harrogate Road (Grade II Listed).

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Character of the Area

As the canal heads out of the Bradford District it passes through an area which is a microcosm of historical and more recent development along the canal throughout its history. At the corner of Meadow Road and Harrogate Road is what remains of Dyehouse Fold, a small industrial hamlet. At its heart are the Dog and Gun pub and 997 Harrogate Road, which were built in the late 18th century as cottages with textile workshops on the upper floors. To either side are 1005-1011 Harrogate Road and 30-35 Meadow Road which are industrial cottages from the early 19th century, the latter being fronted by a stone setted street, another historic detail. These houses and the later Derby Terrace would have housed textile workers at Apperdale Mill and Oaklea Mills, which are all that remains of four 19th century textile mills off Tenterfields. These buildings, like the houses and cottages retains their original character, with Oaklea Mills and its tower being an important landmark along the canal. Of the 20th century are Stylo works, an imposing Art Deco style factory, the new development on the site of Valley Mills, and Calder Valley Marina. The latter two respectively reflect the rebirth of the canal as somewhere desirable to live and as a centre for pleasure cruising.

The canal is lined by a mixture of piling and copingstones, some of which are overgrown. The towpath is reasonably wide and is evenly surfaced with gravel with clean, rugged verges to either side.

Features of the Area

1. Calder Valley Marina: This is one of the few marinas along the length of the Leeds-Liverpool Canal and opened in recent years. Although modern, the marina has a clear relationship to the canal, with a number of canal boats moored there. The marina office/café is a quality modern building built of sandstone, steel and glass under a monopitch roof. The materials and the conviction of the modern architecture means that this building contributes to vistas along the canal.

2. Apperdale Mill: Like Oaklea Mills, this former woollen mill is being converted to residential. It dates from the second half of the 19th century and was known as Dyehouse Mill. The main part of the building is 2 storeys high and has a coped slate roof with kneelers. Below the dentils and eaves band is a grid-like layout of mainly 9 pane timber hopper windows. A contemporary and identically detailed lower wing with a hipped roof projects from this main part of the mill.

3. Oaklea Mills: This impressive landmark 3-storey former worsted mill with tower is dated 1896 and was built alongside the basin which branched off the canal and served the nearby Apperdale Mill (formerly known as Dyehouse Mill). The long side elevations consist of 19 bays of industrial style hopper windows, while the gable which faces onto the canal consists of 6 bays. This gable contains a tall central loading door at first floor. Above and to either side of this loading door is an iron frame which would support the hoist which would be used to take goods off the boats and into the mill and vice versa. The gable is topped by a coped parapet which ends in scrolled stone and conceals the ends of the north light roofing. At the south-eastern corner of the building there is a 2 storey tower with a pavilion roof. The tower has pilaster quoins and impost bands which link the keyed arches of the round-headed windows on the upper floor, with an entablature with modillion dentils above. Along the short ridge of the tower roof is some crown-like ornate iron openwork.

4. 1005-1011 Harrogate Road: 1007-1009 Harrogate Road is the oldest element of this group; a pair of 2 bay cottages with a symmetrical elevation built c.1800. The plain stone door openings have traditional and unsuitable modern doors in them. The central pair of bays contain 3 light windows with plain stone surrounds and thin, slightly recessed mullions. The central lights at 1009 Harrogate Road retain the original sash detail, with fixed timber glazing in the other lights. Unfortunately the modern glazing of 1007 is of a completely different appearance and



method of opening. The stone roof with a shared central stone chimney extends to the north over 1005 Harrogate Road, which was an addition of c.1820. Only one of its window openings retains a mullion, all of the glazing is modern and the reveals of the openings have been painted. 1011 Harrogate Road is a smaller c.1830 addition which lacks traditional details bar its stone roof and unpainted stonework.

5. 30-35 Meadow Road: Built as a 3 bay house and 4 back-to-back houses in the early 19th century, 30-35 Meadow Road was probably built in association with a long demolished dye house on the site of Apperdale Mill. 34-35 Meadow Road are

the subdivided 3 bay house. They have a coped stone slate roof and a regular layout of plain openings with traditional style modern doors and windows. The attached back-to-back dwellings also have a coped stone slate roof and mullioned pairs of windows with traditional style modern glazing. The doors are in plain stone surrounds, but the reveals, like those of the windows, are painted white.

6. 997 & The Dog and Gun, Harrogate Road: The Dog and Gun public house was originally built in phases in the 18th century, as indicated by the quoins on the angles of the building and buried in the wall among the irregularly coursed stonework. It appears that the pub was once three 3 storey cottages in which textiles were manufactured. In the northern gable is a partially glazed, partially concealed first floor taking-in door, while the blocked opening with an arch at second floor level might well have been another loading door rather than a large window. The first and second floor workshops would have been well lit by the rows of mullioned windows in plain stone surrounds, which are a mixture of sash and fixed timber windows. The large pair of windows on the first floor in the left hand bay were probably added later on in the 19th century. The projecting 997 Harrogate Road was a c.1800 rebuild of an earlier part of the same building. At first floor to Harrogate Road is a blocked taking-in door, while the openings to Meadow Road consist of 3 light mullioned windows. The glazing itself is modern timber casements. This cottage, like The Dog and Gun has a recent grey slate roof in place of the stone slates. The front elevation is marred by the oversized fascia boards to the pub and the rendered and painted walls at ground floor. These buildings are Grade II Listed.

7. New housing on the site of Valley Mills: Valley Mills (formerly known as Canal Mills) was built in the second half of the 19th century and was later used as an industrial estate before being recently demolished to make way for the present housing development. The new development is a mixture of terraces and blocks of 2, 3 1/2 and 4 storey modern traditional style housing faced with sandstone 'bricks' with ashlar dressings under gabled and hipped slate roofs. The buildings are very plain in their appearance with decoration limited to features such as entablatured flat roofed porches carried on columns, while the window openings are very basic and other details, such as the gabled dormer windows and catslide roofs are very simple. The mock sash windows are made of modern materials and their casement openings are barely recessed in the wall. The form of development is not one which is traditionally found in the conservation area.

8. Harrogate Road Bridge (214A): This bridge is dated 1936 and replaced the original stone arch bridge over the canal which was built in 1777. The bridge has since been widened as Harrogate Road has changed from a quiet country lane to a busy through road. Deep iron girders carry the stone parapet with flat

copings. The widening of the bridge means that only some of the rusticated ashlar buttresses remain.

9. Stylo Works, Harrogate Road. Dating from the 1930s, this factory has an impressive Art Deco style symmetrical 11 bay two-storey-plus-basement front elevation which is flanked by small plainer wings. The angles of the building and the central three bays which break forward are demarked by rusticated pilaster quoins. These pilasters carry a deep moulded entablature with paired dentils carrying the cornice. Above the cornice is a solid parapet which conceals the roof. Over the central three bays is a taller gently gabled parapet which terminates in dies. The central doorway is accessed up stone stairways with Art Deco style railings with a diagonal motif. The doorway and its cross mullioned squared fanlight are well recessed in architraved reveals. The regular rhythm of single, 2 and 3 light mullioned windows are plain in appearance but have a strong vertical emphasis. The glazing itself is modern and not entirely appropriate for this building. Along the canalside and behind this frontage are more recent industrial buildings, including tall north light sheds. These are fronted by a railed wharf. To Harrogate Road the factory is fronted by deep flat coped stone walls with ashlar pyramid capped stone piers. At the centre are iron gates with an Art Deco motif which matches that of the railings to the stairways.

Issues

- ▶ Dark and uninviting stretch of towpath under the broad Harrogate Road Bridge.
- ▶ Modern form and plain, uncharacterful architecture of the new housing at Valley Mills.
- ▶ Overgrown copingstones along the canal banks.
- ▶ Out of character alterations to and the removal of traditional features and details, including stone boundary walls, at the cottages along Derby Terrace, Harrogate Road and Meadow Road.

